

§ 52.23

100, a reactor, or reactors, having characteristics that fall within the parameters for the site can be constructed and operated without undue risk to the health and safety of the public. All hearings conducted on applications for early site permits filed under this part are governed by the procedures contained in subpart G of part 2.

§ 52.23 Referral to the ACRS.

The Commission shall refer a copy of the application to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). The ACRS shall report on those portions of the application which concern safety.

§ 52.24 Issuance of early site permit.

After conducting a hearing under § 52.21 of this subpart and receiving the report to be submitted by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards under § 52.23 of this subpart, and upon determining that an application for an early site permit meets the applicable standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations, and that notifications, if any, to other agencies or bodies have been duly made, the Commission shall issue an early site permit, in the form and containing the conditions and limitations, as the Commission deems appropriate and necessary.

§ 52.25 Extent of activities permitted.

(a) If an early site permit contains a site redress plan, the holder of the permit, or the applicant for a construction permit or combined license who references the permit, may perform the activities at the site allowed by 10 CFR 50.10(e)(1) without first obtaining the separate authorization required by that section, provided that the final environmental impact statement prepared for the permit has concluded that the activities will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact which cannot be redressed.

(b) If the activities permitted by paragraph (a) of this section are performed at any site for which an early site permit has been granted, and the site is not referenced in an application for a construction permit or a combined license issued under subpart C of this part while the permit remains

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valid, then the early site permit must remain in effect solely for the purpose of site redress, and the holder of the permit shall redress the site in accordance with the terms of the site redress plan required by § 52.17(c). If, before redress is complete, a use not envisaged in the redress plan is found for the site or parts thereof, the holder of the permit shall carry out the redress plan to the greatest extent possible consistent with the alternate use.

§ 52.27 Duration of permit.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, an early site permit issued under this subpart may be valid for not less than ten nor more than twenty years from the date of issuance.

(b)(1) An early site permit continues to be valid beyond the date of expiration in any proceeding on a construction permit application or a combined license application which references the early site permit and is docketed either before the date of expiration of the early site permit, or, if a timely application for renewal of the permit has been filed, before the Commission has determined whether to renew the permit.

(2) An early site permit also continues to be valid beyond the date of expiration in any proceeding on an operating license application which is based on a construction permit which references the early site permit, and in any hearing held under § 52.103 of this part before operation begins under a combined license which references the early site permit.

(c) An applicant for a construction permit or combined license may, at its own risk, reference in its application a site for which an early site permit application has been docketed but not granted.

§ 52.29 Application for renewal.

(a) Not less than twelve nor more than thirty-six months prior to the end of the initial twenty-year period, or any later renewal period, the permit holder may apply for a renewal of the permit. An application for renewal must contain all information necessary to bring up to date the information and data contained in the previous application.

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(b) Any person whose interests may be affected by renewal of the permit may request a hearing on the application for renewal. The request for a hearing must comply with 10 CFR 2.714. If a hearing is granted, notice of the hearing will be published in accordance with 10 CFR 2.703.

(c) An early site permit, either original or renewed, for which a timely application for renewal has been filed, remains in effect until the Commission has determined whether to renew the permit. If the permit is not renewed, it continues to be valid in certain proceedings in accordance with the provisions of § 52.27(b).

(d) The Commission shall refer a copy of the application for renewal to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). The ACRS shall report on those portions of the application which concern safety and shall apply the criteria set forth in § 52.31.

§ 52.31 Criteria for renewal.

(a) The Commission shall grant the renewal if the Commission determines that the site complies with the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations and orders applicable and in effect at the time the site permit was originally issued, and any new requirements the Commission may wish to impose after a determination that there is a substantial increase in overall protection of the public health and safety or the common defense and security to be derived from the new requirements and that the direct and indirect costs of implementation of those requirements are justified in view of this increased protection.

(b) A denial of renewal on this basis does not bar the permit holder or another applicant from filing a new application for the site which proposes changes to the site or the way in which it is used which correct the deficiencies cited in the denial of the renewal.

§ 52.33 Duration of renewal.

Each renewal of an early site permit may be for not less than ten nor more than twenty years.

§ 52.35 Use of site for other purposes.

A site for which an early site permit has been issued under this subpart may

be used for purposes other than those described in the permit, including the location of other types of energy facilities. The permit holder shall inform the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation of any significant uses for the site which have not been approved in the early site permit. The information about the activities must be given to the Director in advance of any actual construction or site modification for the activities. The information provided could be the basis for imposing new requirements on the permit, in accordance with the provisions of § 52.39. If the permit holder informs the Director that the holder no longer intends to use the site for a nuclear power plant, the Director shall terminate the permit.

§ 52.37 Reporting of defects and non-compliance; revocation, suspension, modification of permits for cause.

For purposes of part 21 and 10 CFR 50.100, an early site permit is a construction permit.

§ 52.39 Finality of early site permit determinations.

(a)(1) Notwithstanding any provision in 10 CFR 50.109, while an early site permit is in effect under §§ 52.27 or 52.33 the Commission may not impose new requirements, including new emergency planning requirements, on the early site permit or the site for which it was issued, unless the Commission determines that a modification is necessary either to bring the permit or the site into compliance with the Commission's regulations and orders applicable and in effect at the time the permit was issued, or to assure adequate protection of the public health and safety or the common defense and security.

(2) In making the findings required for issuance of a construction permit, operating license, or combined license, or the findings required by § 52.103 of this part, if the application for the construction permit, operating license, or combined license references an early site permit, the Commission shall treat as resolved those matters resolved in the proceeding on the application for issuance or renewal of the early site permit, unless a contention is admitted that a reactor does not fit within one